

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for connecting a wireless handset to a wireline
2 switch in an integrated wireline/wireless telecommunications network having a
3 plurality of access controllers and wireline switches, each of the access controllers
4 being coupled to at least one of the wireline switches, the method comprising:
5 receiving identification of a subscriber in response to a call attempt;
6 determining a preferred connection between the wireless handset
7 and one of the plurality of wireline switches based on predetermined data
8 associated with the subscriber; and
9 connecting the wireless handset to one of the plurality of wireline
10 switches based on the preferred connection so as to complete the call attempt.

1 2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein each of the access
2 controllers includes a plurality of physical ports for terminating connections
3 between the access controller and associated wireline switches and wherein deter-
4 mining the preferred connection includes determining a preferred wireline switch
5 from the plurality of wireline switches and a connection port from the plurality of
6 physical ports based on the predetermined data.

1 3. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein determining the
2 preferred wireline switch comprises:
3 receiving the identification of the subscriber from one of the
4 wireline switches in response to a call delivery attempt to the wireless handset; and
5 determining a home wireline switch associated with the wireless
handset from the plurality of wireline switches based on the predetermined data.

1 4. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein determining the
2 preferred wireline switch comprises:
3 receiving the identification of the subscriber from one of the access
4 controllers in response to a call origination attempt by the wireless handset; and
5 determining at least one wireline switch from a subset of the
6 plurality of wireline switches based on predetermined communications traffic data,
7 the subset corresponding to the wireline switches actually coupled to the one of the
8 access controllers.

1 5. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein determining the
2 connection port includes determining a plurality of preferred ports from the
3 plurality of physical ports based on the predetermined data, the plurality of
4 preferred ports being a subset of the plurality of physical ports and having common
5 line-side features associated therewith.

1 6. The method as recited in claim 5 wherein each of the
2 physical ports have one of a busy status and an idle status and wherein determining
3 the connection port from the plurality of preferred ports includes determining the
4 status of each of the plurality of preferred ports.

1 7. A system for connecting a wireless handset to a wireline
2 switch in an integrated wireline/wireless telecommunications network having a
3 plurality of access controllers and wireline switches, each of the access controllers
4 being coupled to at least one of the wireline switches, the system comprising:
5 a wireless service processor operative to receive identification of a
6 subscriber in response to a call attempt and determine a preferred connection

7 between the wireless handset and one of the plurality of wireline switches based
8 on predetermined data associated with the subscriber; and
9 the access controller for connecting the wireless handset to one of
10 the plurality of wireline switches based on the preferred connection so as to
11 complete the call attempt.

1 8. The system as recited in claim 7 wherein each of the access
2 controllers includes a plurality of physical ports for terminating connections
3 between the access controller and associated wireline switches and wherein the
4 wireless service processor, in determining the preferred connection, is further
5 operative to determine a preferred wireline switch from the plurality of wireline
6 switches and a connection port from the plurality of physical ports based on the
7 predetermined data.

1 9. The system as recited in claim 8 wherein the wireless service
2 processor, in determining the preferred wireline switch, is further operative to
3 receive the identification of the subscriber from one of the wireline switches in
4 response to a call delivery attempt to the wireless handset and determine a home
5 wireline switch associated with the wireless handset from the plurality of wireline
6 switches based on the predetermined data.

1 10. The system as recited in claim 8 wherein the wireless service
2 processor, in determining the preferred wireline switch, is further operative to
3 receive the identification of the subscriber from one of the access controllers in
4 response to a call origination attempt by the wireless handset and determine at least
5 one wireline switch from a subset of the plurality of wireline switches based on

6 predetermined communications traffic data, the subset corresponding to the
7 wireline switches actually coupled to the one of the access controllers.

1 11. The system as recited in claim 8 wherein the wireless service
2 processor, in determining the connection port, is further operative to determine a
3 plurality of preferred ports from the plurality of physical ports based on the
4 predetermined data, the plurality of preferred ports being a subset of the plurality
5 of physical ports and having common line-side features associated therewith.

1 12. The system as recited in claim 11 wherein each of the
2 physical ports have one of a busy status and an idle status and wherein the access
3 controller, in connecting the wireless handset to one of the plurality of wireline
4 switches, is further operative to determine the status of each of the plurality of pre-
5 ferred ports.